The pay of officers in the Excise Department.

18. **Mr. T.A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state the pay of salt peons, aminadars and Inspectors in the Excise Department of the State ?

Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.—

Peons.

1st grade Rs. 12, 2nd grade Rs. 10 and 3rd grade Rs. 9.

Aminadars.

1st grade Rs. 40, 2nd grade Rs. 35, 3rd grade Rs. 30, 4th grade Rs. 25, 5th grade Rs. 20 and 6th grade Rs. 15.

Inspectors.

1st grade Rs. 80—100, 2nd grade Rs. 65—80 and 3rd grade Rs. 50—65.

The supply of water in the Central Jail.

19. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the amounts spent in 1102 for the supply of water in the Central Jail;

(b) whether there is enough of water for the supply required there?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.— (a) Rs. 22—15—0.

(b) As matters at present stand, the supply is not adequate during the hot weather. Arrangements are, however, being made for meeting the requirements in full.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Was there any provision made in the budget of 1102 for the supply of water in the Central Jail ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The works were carried out at the end of 1102. The idea was to take water by pipes.

President.—The question is, was any amount provided for the supply of water in the Central Jail in 1102? So, provision must have been made in the budget of 1101. I think no provision has been made, according to my memory.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The Member does not say clearly what he means by asking what amount was spent in 1102 for the supply of water in the Central Jail.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The expenditure incurred for the supply of water is given in the answer.

President.—The expenditure, I think, is merely for the supply of water by human labour. They wanted to be paid Rs. 2 per mensem just for the purpose of taking water. I remember that Rs. 3,000 was allotted for the laying of the pipe and pump, and that was included in the budget of 1102.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It was carried out.

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President.—The expenditure was not for works connected with the supply of water. It was actually for the supply of water.

The practice of taking thumb impression of witnesses for registering documents.

20. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the practice of taking Thumb Impression while registering documents is in vogue in British India;

(b) whether literate persons alone are cited as witnesses in registering documents in British India;

(c) if the answer to (a) and (b) is in the affirmative, will they be pleased to state why such practices are not introduced in our State also?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) The question of introducing similar provision as that referred to in (a) will be considered along with the revision of the State *Registration Manual* which is in progress.

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